

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03

RSC-01 PRS-01 NSC-10 NIC-01 CU-04 IO-13 L-03 RSR-01

/068 W

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R 172130Z AUG 73

FM AMCONSUL GUAYAQUIL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2806

INFO AMEMBASSY QUITO

USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GUAYAQUIL 873

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, EC

SUBJ: EDITORIAL REACTION TO GUAYAQUIL DISTURBANCES

JOINT STATE/USIS MESSAGE

1. ALL FIVE GUAYAQUIL NEWSPAPERS HAVE RESPONDED

EDITORIALLY TO THE RECENT DISTURBANCES WITH GENERAL
CONSENSUS BEING VIOLENCE DEPLORABLE AND BOTH GOVERN-
MENT AND PROTESTERS
SHOULD MAKE EFFORTS TO INITIATE
DIALOGUE.

2. THE THREE MORNING PAPERS POSITIONS REPRESENT AN
INTERESTING RANGE OF OPINION AS TO RESPONSIBILITY
FOR RECENT EVENTS. EL UNIVERSO TRADITIONALLY CARE-
FULLY APOLITICAL AND HIGHLY COMMERCIAL IN ORIENTATION
HAS EXPRESSED THAT BOTH PARTIES MUST RESPECT THE LAW.
"YESTERDAY WE WERE TOGETHER CELEBRATING GUAYAQUIL'S
FOUNDATION ANNIVERSARY AND TODAY WE ARE FIGHTING
AMONG OURSELVES." EL UNIVERSO DID CALL FOR AN END
TO SPECIAL PROVISION RECENTLY MADE IN POLICE CODE
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GIVING POLICE LICENSE TO SHOOT ANYBODY WHEN PROVOKED.

3. EL TELEGRAFO INTERESTINGLY ENOUGH (BECAUSE OWNED BY EX-PRESIDENT OTTO AROSEMENA GOMEZ) CAME OUT TODAY IN SUPPORT OF GOVERNMENT ACTIONS DEFENDING USE OF TEAR GAS IN DEMONSTRATION, ALTHOUGH EARLIER IN THE WEEK ITS COLUMNISTS WERE POINTING OUT PROBLEMS OF TEACHERS OUT OF WORK, YOUTH'S DESIRE FOR CHANGES, AND THE NEED FOR DIALOGUE.

4. EXPRESO THE MORNING TABLOID, HAS SUPPORTED THE PEOPLE'S RIGHT TO "DEMONSTRATE". "THE FIGHT AMONG ECUADOREANS IS AN HISTORICAL STEP, AND THE PEOPLE ARE THE SOURCE OF POLITICAL LEGITIMACY (FUENTE DE TODAY LEGITIMIDAD)." ALSO SAYS PEACE CANNOT BE KEPT BY REPRESSION OR VIOLENCE; THAT THE TWO TOGETHER MEAN PARALYSIS FOR THE COUNTRY.
LUBENSKY

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